

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 126068
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY STF:JCONLEY:ADR
APPROVED BY STF:JLSWING
S/S-O :TGMARTIN
STF:LWALKER

-----011619 180707Z /11

Z O 180653Z MAY 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS FLASH
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
CINCUSAFE IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE
JCS WASHDC DL/N MCC/IMMEDIATE
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM IMMEDIATE
MAC CMD CTR SCOTT AFB IL IMMEDIATE
MAC RAMSTEIN AB IMMEDIATE
HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 126068

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MOPS, PINS, PINT, CG, FR, BE

SUBJECT:KOLWEZI RESCUE OPERATION

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF A DRAFT STATEMENT WHICH WE WOULD
ASK ACTION ADDRESSEE TO COORDINATE WITH GOB. STATEMENT IS
NOT RPT NOT FOR USE UNTIL WE OBTAIN VIEWS OF GOB AND
RELEASE IS AUTHORIZED BY DEPT. STATEMENT OF GUIDELINES

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FOLLOWING DRAFT STATEMENT SPELLS OUT OUR CONCERN THAT OUR
PUBLIC STATEMENTS BE COORDINATED WITH GOB. INFO ADDRESSEES
ARE REQUESTED TO PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THESE GUIDE-
LINES.

2. BEGIN DRAFT STATEMENT: "THE BELGIAN AND ZAIRIAN GOVERN-
MENTS HAVE ASKED FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH AN

OPERATION WHICH THEY ARE UNDERTAKING TO EVACUATE FOREIGN NATIONALS INCLUDING AMERICANS, FROM THE TOWN OF KOLWEZI IN SHABE PROVINCE, ZAIRE. TO CARRY OUT THIS OPERATION, THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT ASKED US TO DELIVER JET FUEL AND RELATED HANDLING EQUIPMENT TO AN AIRFIELD IN ZAIRE OUTSIDE THE AREA OF CONFLICT. WE HAVE AGREED TO THEIR REQUEST." END DRAFT STATEMENT.

3. BEGIN DRAFT CONTINGENCY GUIDELINES: "THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WILL RELEASE A STATEMENT DESCRIBING OUR COOPERATION IN THE BELGIAN EVACUATION IN THE VICINITY OF KOLWEZI, SHABA PROVINCE, ZAIRE.

RELEASE WILL BE MADE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OR THE WHITE HOUSE. RELEASING OFFICE TO BE DETERMINED BY CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE WHITE HOUSE, STATE DEPARTMENT AND DEFENSE DEPARTMENT.

IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT:

(1) RELEASE WILL NOT BE MADE UNTIL IT IS COORDINATED WITH

THE GOVERNMENT OF BELGIUM (WE WOULD ASSUME THAT RELEASE WOULD NOT OCCUR BEFORE BELGIANS DEPLOYED IN THE KOLWEZI AREA).

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(2) IT WILL BE MADE CLEAR IN THE STATEMENT AND IN ANY SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION THAT THIS IS A BELGIAN OPERATION TO WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS LENDING ITS SUPPORT.

(3) PRIOR TO THE RELEASE, U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WILL ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT -- WHICH HAS BEEN OUR POSITION TO DATE: "AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE WE DO NOT COMMENT ON CONTINGENCY PLANNING INVOLVING AMERICAN CITIZENS. YOU CAN ASSUME THAT SUCH PLANNING IS DONE AS A MATTER OF COURSE WHENEVER AMERICANS ARE LOCATED IN A REMOTE AREA IN WHICH CONFLICT IS TAKING PLACE."

(4) THE FINAL VERSION OF THE STATEMENT WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE CONTENT OF THE STATEMENT BY THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT." END GUIDELINES.

4. REQUEST AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS COORDINATE STATEMENT WITH GOB SOONEST. QUESTION OF TIMING PARAMOUNT. REPLY BY FLASH MESSAGE.
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PAGE 01 STATE 126068
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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY:STF:JCONLEY
APPROVED BY:STF:WLSWING
S/S-O:TGMARTIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO RUEHCR/SECDEF WASHDC DSAA-ISA IMMEDIATE
ICA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 126068

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 126068 SENT ACTION BRUSSELS INFO USUN
KINSHASA LONDON CINCUSAFE USCINCEUR JCS USNMR SHAPE MAC CMD CTR
SCOTT AFB ILL MAC RAMSTEIN AB HQ USAF E RAMSTEIN MAY 18.

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 126068

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VANCE UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KOLWEZI RESCUE OPERATION
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PINT, CG, FR, BE
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Type: TE
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Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
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